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PROCLAMATION.

JAMES S. CALHOUN,
GOVERNOR

OF THE TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO.

TO THE PEOPLE OF SAID TERRITORY.

The present condition of the Territory of New Mexico, surrounded as it is by hostile tribes of Indians, whose almost daily incursions and depredations are the source of the greatest evils which afflict the country, has induced me to issue by virtue of my powers, as Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of the Territory, this proclamation.

I recommend to all able-bodied male citizens of the Territory, capable of bearing arms, the formation of Volunteer Corps to protect their families, property and homes, and as Commander-in-Chief, as before mentioned, will commission the officers of such companies as may be raised for service against the hostile Indians—upon being shown that such companies have been organized, and that the persons to be commissioned, have been chosen to their different commands, or that the companies have volunteered to organize under the commands of such persons so presenting their claims for commissions.

Immediately upon the organization of any such companies, they will report to the Commander-in-Chief their strength and numbers, and they are then authorized to pursue and attack any hostile tribe of Indians which may have entered the settlements for the purpose of plunder and depredation.

I further direct and order that the property which may be captured from any hostile tribe of Indians, by any company raised under the foregoing provisions, shall be disposed of in accordance with the laws and customs heretofore existing in this Territory—until Legislative action shall be had upon the subject, either by the Congress of the United States or the Legislative Assembly of this Territory.

I also remind those who may volunteer in any such company, that the law will be strictly enforced against any person who shall use this measure of protection to the inhabitants of the Territory, as a pretext for any depredations upon or invasion of the property of the peaceable citizens of N. Mexico; the intention being to put in force the means which are in the power of the people for their benefit, and not that a license for injury to them shall be the result.

In conclusion, the aid and co-operation of the well-wishers to the country is asked, that this movement, which it is believed, can be made so remedial of the sufferings of the people, may go into successful operation, and that life and property—and the homes and fire-sides of the people may be rendered secure from those perils and dangers which now so constantly and daily threaten them.

Given under my hand at the City of Santa Fe, this 18th day of March, A. D. 1851.

JAMES S. CALHOUN,

Governor.

La condicion actual del Territorio de Nuevo Mejico rodeada como se encuentra, por tribus de Indios hostiles, cuyas incursiones i robos casi diarios son el origen de los mayores males que afligen al pais, me ha inducido, en virtud de mi autoridad como Comandante-en-gefe, de la milicia publicar esta proclama.

Recomiendo a los todos ciudadanos varones, bien a condicionados i que sean capaces de llevar armas, la formacion de un cuerpo voluntario para la proteccion de sus familias, sus propiedades i sus hogares, i siendo comandante-en-gefe como he dicho, comisionare a los oficiales de aquellas companias que se puedan reunir para el servicio contra los Indios hostiles luego que sean organizadas, i las personas que sean comisionados, o que las companias han ofrecido organizarse bajo el mando de aquellas personas que presenten sus derechos para ser comisionados.

Inmediatamente que se organice alguna de dichas companias informaran al Comandante-en-Gefe de su fuerza i numero, i entonces tienen la autoridad de perseguir i atacar cualesquiera tribu de Indios hostiles que entren a las poblaciones con el fin de cometer robos i estragos.

Ademas decreto i mando que se disponga de la propiedad que se quite de alguna tribu de Indios hostiles por cualesquiera de las companias formadas bajo las condiciones mencionadas; con arreglo a las leyes i costumbres que han existido en este Territorio, hasta saber la desicion del Congreso de los Estados Unidos o la de la Asamblea Legislativa de este Territorio.

Tambien recuerdo a aquellas personas que sirvan en dichas companias, que la lei sera ejecutada con el mayor rigor contra cualesquiera persona que use este medio de proteccion para los habitantes del Territorio como un pretexto para acometer alguna unvasion o robo de la propiedad de los sosegados ciudadanos de Nuevo Mejico. Siendo la intencion usar los medios que estan al alcance del pueblo para su propio beneficio, i no que el resultado sea una licencia para acometer injurias.

En conclusion se pide la asistencia i co-operacion de los que desean el bien del pais, que este medio que se cree puede dar remedio a los padecimientos del pueblo tenga un principio eficaz, i que las vidas i las propiedades, los domicilios i hogares del pueblo se puedan librar de los peligros i riesgos que continuamente les amenaza.

Firmada de mi mano en la ciudad de Santa Fe, a 18 de Marzo de 1851.

JAMES S. CALHOUN,

Gobernador,

Es traduccion del Original.

D. V. WHITING, Traductor e interprete del Gobierno.